

e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 57

May 2010

No. 5



Calendar

| | | | |
|-----------------|---|----------------|--|
| Fri., Apr. 23 | Film Society, Town Hall, <i>Sullivan's Travels</i> ; pick up your <i>Bugle</i> in the P.O. lobby | Fri., May 7 | Spring membership meeting of GP Swimming Pool Assoc., Town Hall, 7:30 pm |
| Sun., Apr. 25 | GPNS Carnival, Town Hall, 1–4 pm | Mon., May 10 | Town Council Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm |
| Wed., Apr. 28 | Citizens Association meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm; Candidates Forum (see statements, pp 8–10) | Tues., May 11 | Lunch Bunch, Town Hall, 12:30 pm; <i>Bugle</i> deadline, 4 pm |
| Thurs., Apr. 29 | GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm | Sat., May 15 | GPES Spring Fair, 10 am–2 pm (see p 7) |
| Fri., Apr. 30 | Registrations due for Progressive Dinner (see p 5) | Sun., May 16 | Musicale for GPES Music Scholarship, 4 pm, Town Hall (p 2) |
| Sat., May 1 | GIVES collection, Penn Place lobby, 9 am–1 pm (p 4); plant swap, Penn Place basketball court, 10 am (p 3); slide show, South Africa, Vickie Baily, 7:30 pm, Town Hall (see p 7) | Thurs., May 20 | GP Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm |
| Sun., May 2 | Pre-election lawn party at the Kellers', 4501 Clermont Place, 4–6 pm (see p 8) | Fri., May 21 | Film Society, <i>Bottle Shock</i> , wine tasting, 7 pm, Town Hall (p 5) |
| Mon., May 3 | Voting, Post Office lobby, 7 am–7:30 pm; wwearing-in ceremony/party around 9:30 pm, Town Hall (see p 3) | Sat., May 22 | Progressive Dinner, 6 pm (p 5) |
| Thurs., May 6 | GP Casual Music Jam Town Hall, 8 pm | Wed., May 26 | Citizens Association meeting, topic TBD; <i>Bugle</i> deadline for names of graduates from high schools and colleges (p 2) |
| | | Thurs., May 27 | Senior Games and Tea, Town Hall, 1:30–3:30 pm (see p 6) |
| | | Sat., May 29 | Coffeehouse, Town Hall |
| | | Mon., May 31 | Memorial Day; <i>no trash collection</i> |
| | | Fri., June 4 | Fundraiser for Nursery School, Town Hall (see p 5) |

Wide-Ranging Town Council Meeting

The April 13 Town Council meeting was well attended, with about 25 residents filling the Town Hall. No single topic, but rather, a range of topics prompted the turnout.

The meeting began with several short presentations, including the following:

- *Nursery School/Community Center.* Tara Flynn thanked Garrett Park residents for supporting the Nursery School fundraising program (for renovation of the Community Center) and noted that the Nursery School is expecting funds from the state (see p 5).

- *Post Office hours.* Mayor Chris Keller indicated that the curtailment of Post Office hours remains a problem, and that the town will engage politicians on possible remedies.
- *Decennial Census.* Chris Keller also mentioned that, based on information received from the Regional Director of the U.S. Census Bureau, he expects census workers to go door-to-door in Garrett Park starting in May.
- *Land Use Task Force (LUTF).* Councilmember Beth Irons stated that the LUTF report to the Town Council will likely be completed in June or July.

(continued next page)

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Marian Green summarized the recommendations of the *ad hoc* advisory committee on the town’s archives. The committee was established when Barbara Shidler retired as the lead archivist for the town. The committee presented four recommendations:

- 1. The town’s archives need to be safeguarded and augmented.
- 2. The archives need adequate, improved climate-controlled space.
- 3. Volunteers should be solicited to assist in the archival effort.
- 4. The town should hire a part-time employee to lead and coordinate the archival effort.

[Note: the budget line for “archives and public records” will increase from \$21,000 in 2010 to \$30,000 in 2011; as in years past, much of the financing will be provided by grants.]

Town Administrator Ted Pratt announced that, in addition to Councilmembers Hans Wegner and Beth Irons, who were nominated for new terms on the Council at the March Citizens Association meeting, two additional candidates have petitioned to run for the Council: Chuck Berry and Bill Rivers. (See Town Administrator’s Notes, p 3, for more election information.)

The Council took the following actions:

First, the Council declared the 1993 town truck (the beige one) to be surplus; it will be offered for sale immediately and transferred once the town’s new truck is delivered.

Second, the 2011 draft budget was unanimously adopted and existing tax rates were retained. However, Councilmember Phil Schulp expressed concerns about the town’s long-term financial viability and suggested several “tweaks” to the budget. The Council agreed that some modifications in the budget may be warranted, but that changes can be made at a later date. There will a public work session to discuss possible budget changes. Ted Pratt indicated that tax increases are unwarranted because the town’s long-term financial posture is secure.

Third, Harry Gordon, as chair of the town’s Setback Committee, recommended a variance for construction at Jim and Jill Joseph’s house (10901 Raleigh Avenue) due to the exceptional characteristics of the triangular property. The Council unanimously approved the variance request. The documentation will be drafted by the town’s legal counsel.

Finally, the Council went into closed session to discuss issues pertaining to potential acquisition of the Community Center building.

Ken Schwartz

Art at Penn Place

Beginning May 3, the watercolor paintings of Madeline Wikler will be on display at the Penn Place Art Space. In addition to painting outside, Madeline works in her studio on a variety of subjects including buildings, florals, landscapes, and figures. She accepts commissions, and particularly enjoys doing informal portraits of young children. Madeline is a Signature Member of both the Baltimore Watercolor Society and Potomac Valley Watercolorists. She divides her time between Harrison, Maine, and Silver Spring.

Bert Zbar

15th Annual Spring Musicale

Come Sunday, May 16, at 4 pm to Town Hall to celebrate the 15th anniversary of the Ilah Gieser Music Scholarship. Hear your friends and neighbors (and this year’s scholarship student) sing and play all kinds of music from pop and jazz to classical and opera! Save the date for this worthy cause. If you would like to play or sing or join the Town Singers, it’s not too late! Contact Sue Petito.

Green Again

We are green this month thanks to Bob Calvert and Walt Damtoft. Bob noted that even though he lives in Silver Spring now, his heart is still in Garrett Park. Walt sent his donation from Asheville, North Carolina, where he now lives.

Anyone else like to get on the list? Please send your contribution to Mary Moyer, Box 98, with a check made out to the Citizens Association. The sponsorship of the green banner now costs \$60, unless you would like to share the honor with a neighbor or two. We are funded until next December. Many thanks.

Did you pick up your *Bugle* from the box on the table in the P.O.? If you miss getting your copy before the box disappears, you can get one from the Town Office, Peggy Pratt, or Mary Moyer. Only 250 copies were taken last month, so some of you may have missed the Garrett Park news.

The *Garrett Bugle* is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

Citizens Association Officers:
President: Chris Strong (Chris.s.strong@gmail.com)
Co-Vice-Presidents: Todd Harris and Mario Grande
Treasurer: Lara Hines
Secretary: Leslie Bethke-Pope
Members at large: Cathy Rinzel, Mike Grieb, Kathryn Mitchell

Bugle staff:
Editor: Barbara Collier (Box 191)
Reporters: Margaret Soltan (Box 518), Mary Moyer (Box 98)
Ads: Mary Moyer (Box 98) **Graphic design:** Linda Paine
Subscriptions: Jane Salomon (Box 227) **Distribution:** Peggy Pratt
First-class subscriptions cost \$15 (bulk mail subscriptions are no longer available). Letters to the editor can be submitted by mail or hand to *Bugle* staff or by e-mail through the town Web site: www.garrettpark-md.gov/submit-BugleArticle.php. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions for length and clarity. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Town Administrator Notes

Town Elections. Elections will be held May 3, 2010. Please be sure to vote:

- Candidate for Mayor (2-year term): Chris Keller
- Candidates for Town Council (two seats for 2-year terms): Chuck Berry, Beth Irons, Bill Rivers, and Hans Wegner.

Prior registration is required—all citizen voters must be on the county’s voter rolls, and noncitizens must be registered with the town.

Absentee ballots. There are two types of absentee ballots: The regular absentee ballots are available from the Town Office until 4 pm on April 23. After April 23, a voter who will be unable to vote due to illness or conditions of employment may apply for an Emergency Absentee Ballot by contacting the Town Office. The Clerk must receive all absentee ballot before the polls close if they are to be counted.

Hours of voting. Voting hours for the election on Monday, May 3, will be 7 am to 7:30 pm in the Post Office lobby, Penn Place, 4600 Waverly.

Election reception at Town Hall. The Town Hall bell will be rung before announcement of the election results. The evening will include a swearing-in ceremony and reception. We expect the results will be available by 10 pm, so plan to come and greet the newly elected Mayor and Councilmembers.

Election Judges. Judy Heyman will serve as Chief Judge, and Brenda Artim and Margaret Goldsborough as Election Judges, with Cliff Tarpay as Alternate Judge. The Judges will appoint a number of poll workers to assist them.

Campaigning, Electioneering, and Poll Watchers. The Judges of Elections remind residents to respect the right of other residents to post election signs on private property, with permission of the owner. Campaign signs may not be posted on Town Hall or Penn Place property.

No electioneering or posting of signs may take place within the polling place or on Penn Place property within 50 feet of the polls, including the plaza at the entrance to the post office, during the hours that the polls are open on Election Day. State election law prohibits the display of stickers, badges, signs, or other indications of support for any candidate within the polling place.

The Judges of Election will be regulating poll watchers in accordance with Section 10-311 of the Election Law Article of the *Annotated Code of Maryland* and Regulation 33.07.07 of the Code of Maryland Regulations. This law permits certain individuals (called challengers or watchers) to be present in polling places on Election Day and observe the opening, voting, and closing procedures conducted by the Judges of Election and allows any individual to observe other election processes. All persons who wish to observe the election and/or the counting of ballots are required to register with the Judges of Election.

Please contact the Town Office for more information and, if you wish, a registration form.

Fiscal Year 2011 Budget. At the regular April meeting, the Council adopted the FY 2011 Operating and Capital Budget, copies of which are available at the Town Office and will be posted on the town Web site, www.garrettpark-md.gov.

The FY 2011 budget maintains a constant yield tax rate of 19.2 cents per \$100 of value, and anticipates a 3.3 percent decrease in operating revenues to \$950,250 compared to this year’s budget. Transfers from available funds in the town’s treasury in the amount of \$139,140 will bring the total budgeted FY 2011 receipts to \$1,089,390, a decrease of 5.2 percent from the total FY 2010 budgeted receipts of \$1,149,075. (Note: The current projection for total receipts for FY 2010 is \$1,156,825, so this year’s budget remains very much on target.)

These receipts will fund \$934,390 in operating expenses, an increase of \$2,015 (0.02%) from FY 2011—essentially level funding. The transfer to the capital program is \$155,000, a slight reduction of \$11,200 from the current FY 2010 budget. It is expected that when the books are closed on FY 2010 in the late summer, the town will have over \$300,000 in unobligated funds in the town’s treasury, which can be applied to such projects as the Council deems appropriate. Total operating reserves will remain at \$185,000.

And finally: Superb office space available in historic Penn Place starting July 1, 2010: 156 square feet of office space located on the south-east corner, top floor, with bright, natural light, overlooking beautiful Rock Creek Park. Wired for high speed internet and telephone. Contact the Garrett Park Town office for details: 301-933-7488.

Ted Pratt, Town Administrator/Clerk-Treasurer

Plant Swap, May 1

Got a plant you’d like to share? Want a plant for the garden? The annual Garrett Park Plant Swap will take place on Saturday, May 1, at 10 am on the basketball court next to the Post Office. You don’t need to bring a plant to take a plant. And bring any extra veggie or flower seeds you would like to share. See you there!

Services for Seniors

| | |
|---|--|
| Activities of Daily Living <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bathing• Lifting• Personal Care & Hygiene• Dressing• Transferring | What Makes ElderCaring Different? <ul style="list-style-type: none">☛ 2 hour minimum for services – most companies require 4 hours as a minimum☛ All caregivers are professionally trained nursing assistants☛ The owner of ElderCaring personally meets with you to discuss your needs☛ All caregivers are fluent in English☛ Personal choice in selection of every caregiver☛ Licensed, Bonded, Insured☛ 24 Hours Service – 7 Days a Week |
| Support Services <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Companionship• Meal Preparation• Medication Reminder• Physical Therapy• Light Housekeeping• Transportation to Appointments | |

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www.eldercaring2.com www.eldercaringofnova.com

Would you like to receive a brochure in the mail, or set up an appointment?

Citizens Association News

At the last meeting (March 31), Chris Strong accepted nominations for Mayor and two Town Council seats for the upcoming May 3 election. Chris Keller was nominated for Mayor and Beth Irons and Hans Wegner were nominated for Town Council. All nominations were seconded. Beth accepted the nomination in person and Chris and Hans accepted via proxy. Ted Pratt reminded us all of important election dates; for details, see the Town Administrator's Notes (p 3).

Alison Pearce, VP of Fundraising for the GP Nursery School, thanked town residents for their incredible support and informed everyone that because of their generosity, the school was able to meet the bond match. Alison told of two upcoming NS/Community Center fundraising events: a formal dinner at the Town Hall on June 4 (complete with a band and auction) and a carnival day for children on April 25.

Chris introduced Pamela Rowe from RainScapes of the Montgomery County Department of Environmental Protection. RainScapes assists county property owners with environmentally friendly projects that reduce stormwater runoff in a measurable way. Pamela discussed county incentive programs and technical assistance with rain gardens, conservation landscapes, permeable paver retrofits, tree planting, and more. The county has defined the area of Garrett Park south of Strathmore as a targeted area. RainScapes will offer residential assessments and workshops. The presentation was very informative and generated positive discussions. Pamela will put a display in the Post Office. Be on the lookout for future surveys, communitywide forums, and mailings. Pamela can be contacted at pamela.rowe@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Next meeting. On April 28, the Citizens Association will hold the annual Candidates Forum. Candidates for Mayor and the two Town Council seats up for election will be on hand to discuss their views on issues important to GP citizens.

Upcoming events. The Annual Pooch Parade, held the first weekend in June, will be followed by the Fourth of July festivities.

Annual dues. The Citizens Association 2010 annual dues are being collected. The annual dues are \$10 for individuals and \$20 per family. Thank you to all of those who have already paid. For those who have not, please submit dues by mailing them to the Citizens Association at Box 456.

Garrett Park listserv. To join this electronic forum, which allows neighbors to communicate information about town concerns, safety issues, upcoming events, and recommended services, e-mail Todd Harris or sign in at groups.yahoo.com/group/GarrettParkneighbors/join.

Questions or comments for the Citizens Association? If so, please send a note to P.O. Box 456 or e-mail Chris Strong (Chris.s.strong@gmail.com).

Opportunity to Give to GIVES

While many folks stop by the table set up in the Post Office the first Saturday of every month, not many residents realize that GIVES has been an ongoing town tradition for over 30 years, collecting over \$142,000 in donations for the American Friends Service Committee, which has many relief operations abroad, including Haiti, and for local DC shelter Thrive DC, which provides food and health services to DC residents in the Adams Morgan area.

This month marks the passing of Peg Winegarten, long-time Garrett Park resident and founder of GIVES. In her honor, friends like Rhoda Myers Capon have made GIVES donations, and a gift card has been sent to Ms. Winegarten's daughter in San Francisco. You can use GIVES gift cards as well, for special occasions or just to let someone know they make a difference in your life. Stop by the P.O. on May 1 or contact Karen Anderson for a gift card.

This summer, GIVES hopes to expand its summer collection days to include the third Saturdays of May, June, July, and August, in addition to our regular first Saturday of the month schedule. We'll collect outside, right near the Farmers Market, pending approval of the town and Tim.

The new additional collection location (which will not replace the P.O. location) provides an opportunity to expand our audience to neighboring community members, but we will need additional volunteers to help sit at the table and explain what GIVES is about. If you would like to give 2 hours of time, it is a relaxing way to spend a summer morning, catch up with friends, and do some real good for those less fortunate. Please contact Rana Koll-Mandel or Nancy Walz to sign up.

We're also organizing a group visit to Thrive DC on June 8. All are welcome. We will gather at 4:30 here in Garrett Park and carpool to Thrive DC's location, where we will have a tour of the facilities and a presentation on the services offered. If any GP family members are interested in possibly volunteering at a soup kitchen, this would be a good time to check out Thrive DC with no obligation.



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Thank You from Garrett Park Nursery School!

This past month has marked an enormous leap forward in the fundraising efforts for the renovation of the Garrett Park Community Center. There was a tremendous response by alumni and Garrett Park residents to our call for help as we finalized our application for funding through a Maryland State Bond Bill. As of April 12, we have raised over \$113,000 in cash and pledges of cash to apply toward the renovation of the building. And thanks to your support, we have been granted another \$100,000 by the State of Maryland. In addition, we have commitments of donated professional services from a construction manager, carpenters, bricklayers, sheet metal workers, and roofers. We are ready to move on to the design phase of the project as soon as the Town Council acts to acquire the building and grant us a lease.


We are very close to having all the funding necessary to complete the project. In the meantime, our fundraising efforts continue. We hope you'll join us for a special event at Town Hall on June 4. Get yourself dressed up and come enjoy the music of the Stepping Stones (with lead singer Dan Devise of Garrett Park), as well as finger foods, drinks, raffled prizes, and more. Tickets will be \$45 per person in advance or \$50 per person at the door and will include one free wine, beer, or margarita. Please RSVP to Alison Pearce.

We will be publicly honoring our major donors at the June 4 event, as well as handing out "Certificates of Ownership" to those donating \$250 and more. These contributors will be celebrated in permanent displays in the renovated Community Center. We are pleased to announce

Progressive Dinner

The Progressive Dinner is Saturday, May 22, at 6 pm. This year, the event will kick off with appetizers at the Quigley/Andrews house, 10701 Keswick Avenue (Town Hall side). Registrations are due on Friday, April 30! You will receive an e-mail confirmation upon registering. Questions? Contact Jean Horan.

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an additional category in our list of recognized donation levels. A charitable trust donor from the area has pledged \$25,000 and is encouraging others in the community to join the trust in the Foundation Circle by donating at least \$15,000 in cash and/or in-kind services and materials to the fund. These Foundation Circle donors will be honored with a plaque on the outside of the building near the main entrance. The other recognized levels (see below) will be honored with plaques in the interior of the building.

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| Square foot | \$250 |
| Window | \$500 |
| Door | \$1,000 |
| Room | \$5,000 |
| Foundation Circle | \$15,000 |

To make a fully tax-deductible contribution, send checks made out to GPNS to
GPNS – SOS Fund
P.O. Box 314
Garrett Park, MD 20896

Contact Alison Pearce with any questions.

Movie, Wine Tasting, May 21

Bottle Shock (2008, PG-13) tells the story of how, in 1976, California wines surprised the world by winning the now famous "Judgment of Paris," a blind taste test. To give a sense of the action, the GP Film Society will hold its own wine tasting before showing the film. So all you oenophiles take note: May 21, 2010, is sure to be remembered in years to come as the "Judgment of Garrett Park."

As always, a fine dinner inspired by the location or theme of the film will be served before the film. Dinner is \$10 or less; wine by the glass, beer, soda, and water are priced from \$1 to \$5. Nuts and popcorn also are available for \$1—free to members with coupons. The wine tasting will be priced separately.

The film is included in Film Society membership. Nonmembers pay \$5 per person or \$10 per family at the door. So mark your calendars for this special Film Society event.



**9am-9pm
Mon - Sat
9am-7pm
Sunday**

(301) 493 6217



♪ Did you wonder what happened to our census forms? It turns out the Census Bureau will not send forms to P.O. boxes. But do not fear that you will not be counted. The Census Bureau has already planned to do field visits to each house in all P.O. box communities, not only to enumerate us but also because it is required to perform a field verification of physical addresses. (The Postal Service does this on behalf of the Bureau when it does home delivery, but of course this does not happen in P.O. box communities.) In May, enumerators will be going door to door to ask the 10 questions on the forms. (Thanks to Pam Morgan and others for clarifying all this.) Your information should reflect the situation in your household as of April 1. If there is a vacant house next to you, please let them know that no one is there.

- ♪ Wondering why the pine trees at Strathmore and Rockville Pike were cut down? The County Department of Environmental Protection removed them because they were on a stormwater management pond dam embankment and could affect the structural integrity of the pond. We're hoping something else will be planted there.
- ♪ The rumor is that ground breaking for "Symphony Park at Strathmore" will take place this spring. Anyone know the details?
- ♪ Garrett Parker Nan Gootenberg will participate in a Special Olympics bocce ball competition at Mount St. Mary's in Emmitsburg, Maryland, on April 24. Best of luck to her!
- ♪ Monsignor Hill is back at the Holy Cross Rectory recuperating from liver transplant surgery. So far everything seems to be going well.

New Energy Savings Program

Pepco is rolling out a new energy conservation program to subsidize the cost of energy audits, so homeowners will pay only \$100 per audit. The program also will offer a 15 percent subsidy on the costs of implementing the recommended improvements from the audit. Other existing programs that offset the retrofitting costs are a \$250 property tax credit from Montgomery County and a 30 percent federal tax credit.

To get started, call Pepco at 1-866-353-5798. You can view more details at homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/home-energy-savings/home-performance-audit.

GPCAN has been researching local energy audit companies and selected four firms to recommend, each of which is certified by the Maryland Energy Office. We weighed the actual experience of energy audit initiatives in the towns of Chevy Chase and Somerset to come up with this list.

LIVEGREEN LLC

Michael Whelan
4318 Curtis Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815-5161
Web site: www.livegreenhome.com
E-mail: info@livegreenhome.com
Telephone: 301-652-5272; mobile: 301-300-0639

Green Step Today

Jim McKenna, President
937 N. Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD 20879
Web site: www.greensteptoday.com
E-mail: jmckenna@greensteptoday.com
Telephone: 301-330-6600; mobile: 301-758-0410

Ecobeco

5465 Randolph Rd, Unit B, Rockville, MD 20852
Web site: www.ecobeco.com
E-mail: info@ecobeco.com
Telephone: 240-396-2141

Elysian Energy

Jim Conlon, President
1111 East-West Hwy, Ste 2, Silver Spring, MD 20910
Web site: www.elysianenergy.com
E-mail: info@elysianenergy.com
Telephone: 240-381-0395, 1-877-456-9928

Senior Corner

Games and Tea continue. Finally, there isn't a single patch of snow left to remind us of our winter storms; it's now replaced with beautiful blooming dogwoods and azaleas. But what many Garrett Park seniors are remembering is the kindness of their neighbors who shoveled us (yes, me too) out of the deep snows engulfing our homes. "Unsung heroes" we'd call them, and feel they've given added meaning to the word *neighborliness* (Webster: neighborly greetings across the fence).

We're happy to report that our monthly senior sponsored "games and tea" get-togethers at the Town Hall survived the blizzards. At this writing, we're looking forward to meeting for our first honest-to-goodness spring celebration, scheduled for April 22. But if you missed that one, we meet again on May 27 (the fourth Thursday of the month) at 1:30 pm. Everyone is welcome!

Meanwhile, enjoy everything that's blooming, and have a beautiful Garrett Park spring!

Bonnie Tyler

Free films. The Kensington Park Library at 4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington (301-773-9515), shows free films monthly at 6:30 pm. The Ride-On bus (free to seniors) lets off across the street from the library. The following films are scheduled:

April 28: *Enchanted April* (1992), UK, 90 min., PG. Two married women go on a vacation of a lifetime.

May 26: *Starting Out in the Evening* (2007), USA, 111 min., PG-13. A writer tries to overcome writer's block.

June 23: *The Boy in the Striped Pajamas* (2008), USA, 94 min., PG-13. The son of a Nazi guard develops an unusual friendship.

Florence Gootenberg

GPES

The Spring Fair is coming! Save Saturday, May 15, for fun activities, food, and a plethora of plants for sale. Held at the school, rain or shine, it promises to be a superlative occasion, especially since this is the last one to be held before the school is torn down. Plants on sale will include impatiens, lantana, verbena, petunias, snapdragons, vinca, and others. Come get something that speaks of spring to put in your garden.

Also, please help the teachers pack up their belongings so that they can be shipped to the holding school. If you can volunteer some time to your child's teacher, or to anyone else at the school, please call the school office (301-929-2170) to get your name on the list. Everything must be ready to go by the last day of school. The boxes and tape have been supplied by MCPS.

Our Ilah Gieser Scholarship winner for this year, RJ Riojas, will be playing his violin at the musicale on Sunday, May 16. Come hear him and other musically inclined residents at 4 pm in the Town Hall (see p 2). All proceeds go to fund a scholarship for another student next year.

Mary Moyer

Garrett Park Yoga Update

GP yoga is continuing at Town Hall on Tuesday evenings from 8 to 9:15 pm. We have a great new teacher, Liz Chabra, who has been practicing yoga since she was 19. Born and brought up in India, Liz continues her study under Yogarupa Rod Stryker (Para Yoga) and Pandit Tagunait (Spiritual Head of the Himalayan Institute). She created the yoga program at Brookside Gardens in Wheaton, teaches at AU, and offers various workshops at area yoga studios. The mother of two teenagers, she lives in Kensington. The cost to join the current session is \$95 (5 classes, April 27 through May 25; send a check to 10812 St. Paul Street, Kensington, MD 20895, or pay when you come to class). You may also drop in for \$20 per session. For information, contact Liz at gayatri-mantira.liz@gmail.com.

Please come join us for a unique physical and spiritual experience. Hope you can make it.

Glenda Ingham

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Looking for Storage Space

The Garrett Park Nursery School is looking for a few empty nooks and crannies to share in the neighborhood! The school must move into temporary, smaller quarters at Ken-Gar park during the next 12 to 18 months (starting in June) while the GP Community Center is renovated and the neighboring GP Elementary School is torn down and rebuilt. We will need to store some boxes and small furniture. If anyone has some spare basement or other storage space available to share for this time, please contact Gerilee Bennett.

Gerilee Bennett

Slides of South Africa, May 1

When you watch nature shows, do you ever wonder what it would be like if *you* could go and see the game parks in Africa? Would they turn out to be glorified zoos? Or are things there just fine, and we're being oversold the idea that the bush is vanishing?

Come to the Town Hall on May 1 at 7:30 pm and see a slide show by local photographer Vickie Baily, and get her visual take on what it's like to visit a South African game reserve, as well as what it's like to spend a week in Cape Town, penguins and all.



Come visit the antiques shop on Kensington's Antique Row owned by your Garrett Park neighbor, Margaret Goldsborough. This is recycling at its very best: practical, well made furniture & decorative pieces that have stood the test of time.

GOLDSBOROUGH
Glynn
ANTIQUES & DECORATIVE ARTS
301-933-4460
AntiqueRowSisters@verizon.net
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• Furnace & A/C replacement

• Garbage disposals

• Pinhole leak pipe repairs & replacement

• Installation of gas logs and gas grills

• Sump pump replacement

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301 384 7611 or 301 237 7510

Letter from the Mayor

Nursery School/Community Center: I am pleased to report that the Garrett Park Cooperative Nursery School was successful in obtaining a grant from the state to help finance renovation of the Community Center, home of the Nursery School for over 50 years. Senator Jennie Forehand was instrumental in achieving the grant of \$100,000; we all owe her a tremendous debt of gratitude for her dedication and perseverance. This development, together with the likely favorable resolution of issues relating to the deed to the Community Center property if the town gains ownership, moves us closer to the time when the Town Council can decide whether to accept the Parks Department's offer of transfer of the property to the town. That said, the financial aspects of the matter remain significant; I urge you to support the efforts of the Nursery School to raise additional funds in support of renovation of the Community Center building... starting with the Carnival on April 25 at Town Hall.

Trees and storms: Spring is always lovely in Garrett Park, enhanced significantly by the care taken over the years in planting and maintaining the town's street trees. With the help of the Arboretum Committee and the expert advice of our consulting arborist, the town takes many factors into consideration when choosing trees. Taking account of overhead utilities—chiefly power lines—has always figured into both the choice of trees and their maintenance; with the proliferation of ever-lower overhead wires and cables, this element has played an even larger part in the town's tree program. In the heavy snows this past winter, we are aware of no power outages in Garrett Park that were directly attributable to a town tree limb falling from above. In one case, a Pepco pole leaning against a tree in the town right-of-way snapped when the small branch supporting the pole gave way. Although Pepco marked the pole for replacement *five years ago*, it had been left in place, despite multiple pleas. In the storm, Pepco response to the snapped pole and burning transformer was appallingly slow. And, as we all know, restoration of electric service to the significant number of homes in Garrett Park that lost power was unacceptably slow.

The town has been asked to write the Maryland Public Service Commission, which is assessing various utilities' response to the winter storms. Public media coverage suggests that attention is focusing on allowing Pepco to be more aggressive in cutting trees near power lines. I think that the approach needs to be more nuanced and will urge the PSC not to grant *carte blanche* to utilities to prune trees in municipalities that have a comprehensive tree care program and can show that the municipality prunes trees with attention to overhead utilities, as is the case in Garrett Park. I will also convey the town's view that the greater problem in our case was Pepco's inadequate communications and poor maintenance of its own infrastructure. Both residents and the town had difficulty conveying and obtaining information, even with respect to unmistakably urgent conditions such as the burning transformer. Repair crews on site were typically hard-working, conscientious, and competent, but even the crews found communications with dispatchers difficult.

Town Election: Please be sure to cast your vote in the town election on Monday, May 3, at Penn Place. I want to thank the Judges of Election for continuing their efforts to refine the voting procedures, and especially for maintaining uninterrupted 7 am to 7:30 pm voting hours. These longer hours, instituted several years ago, make it easier for residents to get to the polls at convenient times, but they also put greater demands on the judges and poll workers, so I know I speak for all Garrett Parkers when I convey our special appreciation to them for their efforts.

Pre-election gathering: Celebrate your right to vote by joining Henri and me for an informal nonpartisan lawn party on Sunday, May 2, 4 to 6 pm in our yard at 4501 Clermont Place. The get-together will be a light-fare pot luck—no formal presentations, just an opportunity to chat with neighbors and engender interest in the following day's election. We will supply beverages; finger food contributions welcome but not essential.

Chris Keller

Candidate Statements

Candidate for Mayor: Chris Keller

I am pleased and honored to run for re-election as Mayor. I look forward to the prospect of serving the town for an additional two years, working with the Town Council and the many volunteers who help make Garrett Park the special place it is. I firmly believe that Garrett Park is not "just another suburb" with pretty architecture and trees. We have qualities that are worth working for, preserving, and enhancing. Since its inception in 1898, Garrett Park has evolved to accommodate change while preserving its unique character. I am grateful for the opportunity to continue to be a part of the evolution of the town. I ask for your vote on May 3.

Candidates for Town Council: **Chuck Berry**

A number of people contacted me about the election in Garrett Park on May 3. They expressed appreciation for my service as a Town Council

member from 2007 to 2009, and encouraged me to serve again to provide the same open, honest, and fiscally responsible approach to conducting the business of the town as I did then. For this reason, and to afford the voters more choice in Council representation, I stand for election to the Garrett Park Town Council.

Born in Washington, D.C., I am a life-long resident of Montgomery County. My wife Patty (Guay) is the chief dietitian at Suburban Hospital and a fitness instructor at the YMCA. Patty and I, along with our four sons, moved to Garrett Park in 1999. We enjoy our pleasant, picturesque town. I hold a degree in civil engineering from the University of Maryland, and have worked for over 30 years in design and construction of a wide variety of public works projects. Currently, I am a project manager for the federal government on a number of capital improvement and maintenance projects.

I believe a town is best served when issues are examined and discussed openly, objectively, and

critically to obtain optimum results. In this spirit, some of the areas of importance to the town that I would like to hear your views about and will focus on are the following:

Capital Improvement Plan. Essentially, this plan proposes two million dollars of mostly road repairs to be funded by a bond if all the work is done at one time. My review of the road situation is that less than half of this cost is warranted. The Council has relied on information recommending an expensive correction strategy for all roads when actually many sections of pavement are structurally sound. Like many residential driveways, a number of roads in town are in serviceable condition and can benefit from a significantly less costly periodic sealing to extend their life. One of my highest priorities is to replace the broken, deteriorated sidewalks in town.

Garrett Park Nursery School. Like most, I am appreciative of the GPNS's mission and its long-time link to the town. I support the proposed plan for the town to take ownership of the property as long as the GPNS can pay for all costs as promised.

Garrett Park Land Use Task Force. The GPLUTF plans to forward its final report to the Town Council this summer. Presentations should be made to citizens, and a nonbinding referendum should be considered if changes to our land use rules are proposed so that all can have a say in what changes are made with their property and not just our five Councilmembers.

Bugle delivery. "Sound the charge!" to deliver our Bugle to our Post Office boxes again.

Park improvements. I enjoyed working with others on recent site and playground improvements in Cambria Park. A boundary survey and initial planning work are under way for the Garrett Park Town Court area (next to the pool), and I look forward to lending a hand with this next endeavor.

In addition to the aforementioned service on the Town Council, my involvement in the town includes working on various Garrett Park committees: Parks and Open Space, Street Lighting, Penn Place Parking, Right-of-Way, and the Garrett Park Swimming Pool Association Board. I would be honored to serve on the Council for you and will draw on my professional expertise as well as my experience working within the town to be a responsive and effective advocate for all in Garrett Park.

Beth Irons (incumbent)

My thoughts on the future of Garrett Park. I am delighted to see young families move to Garrett Park, settle in, and desire to stay. It is with these young families in mind that I think about the future of our town. I'm intrigued to learn that the same attributes that attracted me to Garrett Park 13 years ago are still the attributes newcomers value most today: open space, trees, diversity of architectural styles and sizes of homes, and a "sense of community" created by our town's activities, organizations, and traditions. We must be doing something right!

Looking to the future, it is these same values that I want to protect and nurture. Garrett Park will no doubt be challenged by the pressures of more traffic and other impacts of the increased development to our north, west, and south (White Flint and Symphony Park come immediately to mind). As an independent municipality chartered by the state of Maryland, we have the best chance of maintaining an appealing, family-friendly community. We can

chart many of our land use and zoning policies, control streets, enhance communications within our town and take other actions to protect and improve our unique and special town character: physically, socially, and yes, even spiritually.

My experience. I am completing my second term on the Town Council. During my tenure, I have served as the Council's liaison to the Garrett Park Conservation Trust, the Historic Preservation Committee, the Land Use Task Force, and the Set-back Advisory Committee. I have also worked to resolve complex deed issues related to the proposed Community Center transfer to the town. I was encouraged by numerous residents to run again for Council, as they know I contribute a rich depth of professional experience, thoughtful moderation, and balance to Council deliberations. I listen more than talk; I find you learn more that way and make better decisions.

By way of background, my professional and community experience include the following:

Small business owner/broker, GreenSail Realty, an environmentally aware realty company

Lawyer: experience in land-use, real estate, corporate, & international law

Project Manager: commercial office & retail projects, new construction & rehabilitations

City Planner: city and environmental planning & transportation consultant

Served as Elder overseeing Global Mission activities for my local church

Have lived in Garrett Park since 1997, expanded and renovated my home and garden with sensitivity to the character of our town.

It would be an honor to continue to serve you on the Town Council. A vote for me will make a difference in the future of our town. Thank you for your vote on May 3.

Bill Rivers

Garrett Park faces challenges and opportunities on all fronts—a fiscal environment that hasn't yet turned around, growth from the White Flint Sector plan, and differences in how to achieve the vision of a walkable, livable, friendly community. We can work together as people of good will, creating knowledge and practical solutions out of our different opinions, experiences and expertise. That is why I am running for Town Council in 2010.

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First, a bit about myself. I was born in Munich, Germany, in 1969. My parents were serving there as civilians working for the U.S. government, and we came back to the States when I was 2. I've lived in Maryland for the past 32 years, except for 2 years in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, where I earned a Ph.D. in Russian. My other degrees are from the University of Maryland, in aerospace engineering (B.S.) and Russian (B.A. and M.A.). My wife Karin is a science writer and molecular biologist, having earned a Ph.D. from MIT, and our son, Arden, is a first grader at GPES, a train fanatic, and very happy to be in Garrett Park. We moved here in 2008, drawn by the trees, architectural diversity, our perception of Garrett Park as a friendly neighborhood, and the good reputation of the schools. We have a house next to the train tracks—great for a couple of train-loving kids—and we enjoy the variety of Montgomery County.

Before Garrett Park, I lived for nine years in Burkittsville, a town of 150 in southwestern Frederick County. I served there on the Planning and Zoning Appeals Board, and was an active participant in town government. For the past three years, I've worked in the private sector as a researcher and businessman, focusing on language, culture, and national security. My career is dedicated to improving the nation's capacity to understand and communicate with other cultures.

I am ready to participate more actively by serving on the Council as your voice. I will work for you to find commonsense solutions to these challenges:

- The town's financial state, as a result of the continuing national economic challenges
- Leveraging the good work of the Land Use Task Force
- The impact of development on Rockville Pike, particularly at White Flint, and the protection of the MARC station
- The future of the Garrett Park Community Center, home of the Nursery School
- The maintenance and improvement of the town's canopy and architectural diversity
- The improvement of the town's parks, roads, sidewalks, and services

As your Councilmember, I will work for you. We have the power to make Garrett Park the place we want it to be, welcoming newcomers, providing a place for families to grow, and ensuring that our senior citizens can remain in their homes and independent.

Allow me to finish with two requests: First, I need to know how *you* want to improve Garrett Park—I firmly believe that governance is a shared responsibility. Please do e-mail me or drop me a note (Box 308).

Second, I ask that you consider making me your representative on Town Council. I look forward to working on your behalf. Thank you for your vote on Monday, May 3.

Hans Wegner (incumbent)

I am running for the Town Council because I am passionate about perpetuating the strong sense of community and neighborliness we enjoy as residents of Garrett Park. I know that these unique qualities are not an accident, but the result of dedicated hard work by members of the community.

I want to do my part to retain and build on these characteristics for the future.

My philosophy as a Councilmember is always to work for consensus, to find the common ground, and to work cooperatively with others on the Council. I believe that, even on the difficult questions, if we take the time to get to know the facts, solutions will rise to the surface so that reasonable people can agree upon the wisest course of action. I try to be conscientious about doing my homework and learning the facts on any issue in order to make well-informed decisions.

I really appreciate the support of our residents who understand that the Town Council and Mayor are volunteers who are all trying their best to balance the diverse and sometimes competing needs of residents (not to mention our families and our work) with the time and money available to meet those needs. I take my role on the Council seriously and am willing to work hard to make sure I do what is best for the town. I do not bring an agenda to my role on the Council. What I bring is an open mind, a willingness to listen and learn, to find workable and cost-effective solutions, and a passion to make this a caring, considerate and neighborly community in which all of us feel vested.

In the coming Council session we face several difficult and possibly contentious issues. Among these are the following:

How do we maintain basic services and the value of the town's assets in a climate of severe revenue reductions?

What does the town wish to do regarding the Nursery School building?

What are the wishes of the residents regarding the maintenance of local control of the town's zoning as a way of preserving open space?

What are our priorities among the town's capital assets (streets, buildings, lights, etc.), all of which are in need of some level of maintenance or repair?

I do not have the answers on these issues. I do not think any one of us has *the* answer, but I am absolutely convinced that by working together in a respectful, cooperative, collaborative way, answers will surface and we will find a reasonable way to proceed. What is important is that residents be involved and included in every part of that process.

My primary Council responsibilities have been town streets (including drains, sidewalks and curbs), snow and leaf removal, Strathmore Avenue, street lights, and liaison with the nursery school and elementary school and with the White Flint Coalition. I am concerned that the street repair program begun three years ago as a follow-up to the town's Capital Improvement Plan has been put on hold because of lack of funds. Addressing that issue so we do not lose the work already done is of primary concern to me. I am also personally committed to doing all I can to reduce Garrett Park's carbon footprint. We began two years ago to buy wind-power for all of the town's electrical needs, and I would like to find new ways to improve energy efficiency and reduce waste.

I ask for your support on May 3. You have my commitment that I will continue to work conscientiously to make sure that the Council serves all of us well.